

For gooseberries, blackberries and loganberries add $2\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of water to 1 pint of tar distillate winter wash.

Damping Off of Seedlings.—This is a common trouble and occurs in unsterilised soil. It is caused by certain fungi in the soil attacking the stems of the seedlings. At first the stems turn brown near the soil level, and the seedling topples over and dies. There is no cure once a seedling is attacked, but "damping off" is easily prevented by the use of cheshunt compound solution (1 oz. cheshunt compound to 2 gallons of water). This should be used immediately the seedlings appear through the soil and can be applied later instead of ordinary water. It will not scorch the tenderest seedlings and may be watered on with a watering-can.

In some cases sterilisation of the soil is worth considering, and for small quantities of soil the use of a dilute solution of formaldehyde ($\frac{1}{2}$ pint solution of formaldehyde 40 per cent. added to 3 gallons of water) is best. The soil should be spread on a hard floor and soaked with the dilute solution, after which it should be made into a heap and covered with sacks or tarpaulin for 48 hours to prevent the fumes from escaping. The soil should then be turned occasionally to assist the fumes to escape, but it must not be used until it ceases to smell of formaldehyde.

It is a good plan also to soak seed boxes and pots in the dilute solution of formaldehyde.

Editor's Note.—The preparations mentioned in this article are packed in very convenient form by Messrs. Boots, Ltd.

THE SUPPLY OF GARDENING REQUIREMENTS

It is not anticipated that much difficulty will be experienced in obtaining supplies of seeds, seed potatoes and manures—at any rate for the coming season.

So far as we know at present seed potatoes will not be controlled during the coming season, although it may be necessary later on for this to be done. Wholesalers of seed potatoes are being asked already by the Ministry of Food to register in order to facilitate purchase and distribution.

Some seeds which come from abroad will be rather scarce and expensive. Peas, especially, are likely to fall within this category, as Britain's main supplies have been drawn from parts of Europe at present occupied by Germany. This shortage may be overcome to some extent by making thinner sowings, for most gardeners hopelessly overcrowd their peas, with consequent detriment to the crop.

The supply of fertilisers should present little difficulty as the manufacturers have laid themselves out to meet the demand.

Tools should not be too difficult to obtain. Some makers are also engaged in war work, and this may complicate matters a little, but in view of the importance of the matter and the ability of British industry to adapt itself to all kinds of difficult situations, there is no doubt that everyone will be supplied. With the exception of

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1 pkt. BEET, Long ...	$\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	CARROT, Intermediate ...	$\frac{1}{4}$ oz.
BEET, Globe ...	$\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	LETTUCE, Cabbage ...	$\frac{1}{8}$ oz.
BROAD BEANS ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ pt.	LETTUCE, Cos ...	$\frac{1}{8}$ oz.
FRENCH BEANS ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ pt.	ONION, for Spring use ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
RUNNER BEANS ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ pt.	ONION, for Main crop ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
CABBAGE, Spring ...	1 pkt.	PARSNIP ...	$\frac{1}{4}$ oz.
CABBAGE, Autumn ...	1 pkt.	PEAS, Early ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ pt.
SAVOY CABBAGE ...	1 pkt.	PEAS, Maincrop ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ pt.
BROCCOLI ...	1 pkt.	RADISH, Long ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
BRUSSELS SPROUTS ...	1 pkt.	RADISH, French Breakfast ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
CAULIFLOWER ...	1 pkt.	TURNIP, Yellow ...	1 pkt.
BORECOLE (Kale) ...	1 pkt.	VEGETABLE MARROW ...	1 pkt.
CARROT, Long ...	$\frac{1}{4}$ oz.		

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